Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

- (Currently Amended) A synthetic middle distillate cut comprising more than 50 mass% 1. paraffins lighter than C16 and in which more than 50 mass% of [[all]] the total paraffins of the middle distillate cut are isoparaffins, and wherein the isoparaffins [[are]] being predominantly methyl and/or ethyl and/or propyl branched wherein
- a C10 to C18 fraction of the synthetic middle distillate cut has a mass ratio range of isoparaffins to n-paraffins of between 1:1 and 9:1;
- a C8 to C9 fraction of the synthetic middle distillate cut has a mass ratio range of isoparaffins to n-paraffins lower than that of the C10 to C18 fraction; and
- a C19 to C74 fraction of the synthetic middle distillate cut has a mass ratio range of isoparaffins to n-paraffins of from 3.3:1 and 5:1.
- (Currently Amended) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 1, wherein the 2. gradient of an isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio profile of the synthetic middle distillate cut increases from about 1:1 for C₈ to 8.54:1 for C₁₅ and decrease again to about 3:1 for C₁₈.

3-5. (Canceled)

- (Currently Amended) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim [[5]] 2, 6. wherein the C19 to C24 fraction of the middle distillate cut has a mass ratio range of isoparaffins to n-paraffins of between 4:1 and 4.9:1.
- (Currently Amended) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim [[3]] 2 which 7. comprises 30 mass% of a straight run component thereby selecting the isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio of the C_{10} to C_{18} fraction to between 1:1 and [[2:5:1]] 2.5:1.

- (Currently Amended) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim [[3]] 2, which 8. comprises 20 mass% of a straight run component thereby selecting the isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio of the C_{10} to C_{18} fraction to between 1.5:1 and [[3:5:1]] 3.5:1.
- (Currently Amended) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim [[3]] 2, which 9. comprises 10 mass% of a straight run component thereby selecting the isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio of the C_{10} to C_{18} fraction to between 2.3:1 and 4.3:1.
- (Previously Presented) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 3, wherein 10. the isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio of the C_{10} to C_{18} fraction having substantially only a hydrocracked component is between 4:1 and 9:1.
- (Previously Presented) A middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least 11. some of the isoparaffins are di-methyl branched.
- (Previously Presented) A middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least 30 12. mass% of the isoparaffins are mono-methyl branched.
- (Previously Presented) A middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least 13. some of the isoparaffins are ethyl branched.
- (Currently Amended) A middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ratio of 14. isoparaffins to n-paraffins of the middle distillate cut is from about 1:1 to about [[12:1]] 9:1.
- (Previously Presented) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 14, wherein 15. the isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio is between about 2:1 to about 6:1.
- (Previously Presented) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 15, wherein 16. the isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio is 4:1.

- (Currently Amended) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed inclaim 3-in claim 1, 17. having a light fraction in the boiling range 160°C to 270°C wherein the isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio of the light fraction is from 1:2 to 4:1.
- (Previously Presented) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim 17, having 18. the light fraction in the boiling range 160°C to 270°C wherein the isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio of the light fraction is 2.2:1.
- (Currently Amended) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in claim [[3]] 1, having 19. a heavy fraction in the boiling range 270°C to 370°C wherein the isoparaffins to n-paraffins mass ratio of the heavy fraction is from 4:1 to [[14:1]] 5:1.
- 20. (Canceled)
- (Currently amended) A synthetic middle distillate cut as claimed in elaim 1, claim 1, 21. wherein the synthetic distillate is derived from one or more FT primary product.
- 22-58. (Canceled)